

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Dorchester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: Rehoboth	
AND OR HISTORIC: Turpin Place, Lee Mansion	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: West side of Punkum Road			
CITY OR TOWN: El Dorado			
STATE Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Dorchester	CODE 019

3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC		
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. John Breuil			
STREET AND NUMBER: Rehoboth			
CITY OR TOWN: El Dorado	STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records			
STREET AND NUMBER: St. John's College Campus, College Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust			
STREET AND NUMBER: 94 College Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Dorchester
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rehoboth is located off the west side of Punkum Road just north of the intersection of Punkum Road, Maryland Route 313 and Cokesbury Road in El Dorado, Maryland.

Rehoboth is a two-and-a-half story, brick building, three bays wide and three bays deep. The brick is laid in Flemish bond. The house stands on a high foundation, on each elevation of which is a double-mold water table and at the ground level large basement windows.

The foundation of the house is a ledge, four feet wide, made of stones mixed with mortar. The walls of the house vary in thickness from eighteen inches to twenty-four inches.

The belt is a two-brick course. The windows on the river facade (southwest) have plaster lintels, simulating stone masonry, and there are twelve-over-twelve sash on the windows at both floor levels of each facade. The gable-end windows have nine-over-nine sash and in the attic there are two round windows on each gable. There are two dormers on the southwest and northeast sides of the roof. The cornice has modillions.

The interior of the house was gutted by fire in October 1916. On February 27, 1917, Francis W. Breuil (1870-1944) purchased the walls and 70 acres of land. The original exterior walls were intact with the exception of the south gable. The house was rebuilt exactly as it was except for the circular staircase which went from the hall to the third floor.

Off the northwest facade a frame kitchen wing has been added. The house burned in 1916. It was renovated by the parents of the 1971 owner.

Sixteen acres are designated as the acreage surrounding Rehoboth which is appropriate to protect the immediate area around the house and to the center of the small creek alongside of which the house stands.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☒ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1783-1790

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The association of Rehoboth with Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, each a Signer of the Declaration of Independence, as well as the interstate relationship between the Lees of Virginia and the Lees of Maryland, brings this house into significant historical focus. Descending through the family of the second elected Governor of Maryland, Thomas Sim Lee, adds to its historical value:

A State Roads Commission marker reads:

"Rehoboth

Patented by Captain John Lee of Virginia, 1673 for 2360 acres. It descended through the Lee family until 1787. Thomas Sim Lee, 1745-1819 (second Governor of Maryland) was descended from the Lees of Rehoboth"

On Marshy Hope Creek, the northwest fork of the Nanticoke River, is the site of the Maryland Lee family.

Early land records in Annapolis record a tract of 2350 acres patented to Captain John Lee, June 24, 1673. Captain John Lee was one of the eight children of Richard Lee of Virginia: John, Richard, Francis, William, Hancock, Elizabeth, Annie and Charles. Captain John (1645-1673) left his land to Richard Lee II, his brother, who died in 1714. Philip Lee, a son of Richard II, inherited "Rehoboth" and upon his death in 1744 the lands were devised to Philip's sons: Corbin, John, George, Francis; and to a grandson, Philip Lee.

Thomas Lee, another son of Richard Lee II, had also received a 1300-acre share of Rehoboth. Thomas Lee was the father of the famous Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, each a Signer of the Declaration of Independence. Philip Ludwell Lee, brother of Richard Henry and Francis Lightfoot Lee, shared ownership of a part of "Rehoboth" with a sister, Lettice Corbin Lee.

Francis Lee, son of Philip Lee, was a member of the

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Michael Bourne, Maryland Historical Trust,
94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland;
Ann D. Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register,
Maryland Historical Trust.

Flowers, Thomas A. (ed.), Souvenir Source Book, Dorchester
Tercentenary Bay County Festival 1669-1969, July 18-26,
1969.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 35' 19.5"	75° 47' 50 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	38° 35' 15 "	75° 47' 43 "				
SE	38° 35' 09 "	75° 47' 47.5 "				
SW	38° 35' 13 "	75° 47' 55 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

sixteen acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Jan. 17, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na-
tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law
89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion
in the National Register and certify that it has been
evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set
forth by the National Park Service. The recommended
level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer
for Maryland

Date January 18, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the
National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST: _____

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Dorchester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Rehoboth

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Historic American Building Survey

1969 Federal

Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. Code: 11

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Maryland Assembly in 1745. He lived at "Rehoboth." Upon his death in 1749, he gave his son Francis Leonard Lee all of the dwelling plantation in "Dorset County" called Rehoboth.

In 1787 Lettice Corbin Lee sold a tract of land--200 acres--called "Rehoboth" to Captain John Smoot. The next owner was Major Frank Turpin, who was first a captain in the militia of Dorchester County during the Revolutionary War. "Rehoboth" was called "Turpin Place." Major Turpin died in 1829 and he was interred in the family plot. He was later reinterred in Christ Church Cemetery, Cambridge, Maryland.

In a letter from Mrs. Mary Turpin Layton, great-granddaughter of Captain John Smoot, to Mrs. Francis Breuil, Mrs. Layton maintained that she had positive proof that Captain John Smoot had built the house sometime between 1783 and 1790. This was in sharp disagreement with Dr. Elias Jones and Swepson Earle who maintain that the house was built circa 1725.

It can be conjectured on the basis of the information presented that Mrs. Layton is correct. The original patent was 2350 acres which soon afterwards was subdivided into smaller sections, each of these sections carrying the familiar title "Rehoboth." There is a possibility that the older plantation house erected on one of the sections was lost since the Lee family in Dorchester County seems to have disappeared as the female members inherited the land.

Breuil, a native of Philadelphia, left school at the age of seventeen to go to sea. Later in life he prospected for gold in California and in Mexico. After buying "Rehoboth," the Lee homestead, the building housed his gun collection which included an example of every type of musket used by

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Dorchester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Rehoboth

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

the United States Army from the American Revolution to the Civil War.

After his death in 1944 the house and grounds went to Breuil's son John Breuil, the 1971 owner.

#9. REFERENCES continued

Clark, Charles B., The Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, 3 vols., New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1950.

Wilstach, Paul, Tidewater Maryland, Blue Ribbon Books, Inc., New York, 1931, p. 165.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

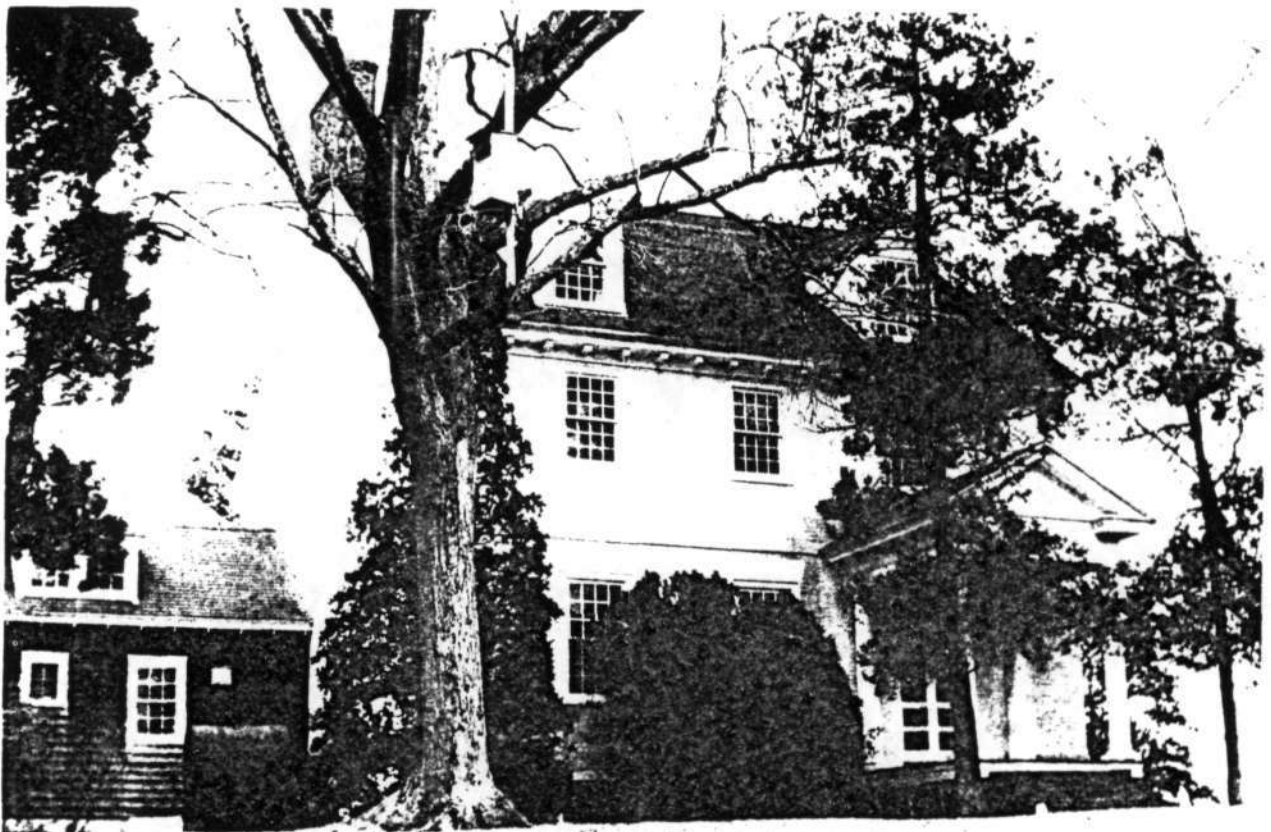
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Dorchester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Rehoboth			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Turpin Place, Lee Mansion			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: West side of Punkum Road			
CITY OR TOWN: El Dorado			
STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Dorchester	CODE 019
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Michael Bourne for the Maryland Historical Trust			
DATE OF PHOTO: July 1968			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Maryland Historical Trust 94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland 21401			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Southwest elevation			



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Dorchester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Rehoboth			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Turpin Place, Lee Mansion			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: West side of Punkum Road			
CITY OR TOWN: El Dorado			
STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Dorchester	CODE 019
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map; Rhodesdale Quadrangle, Maryland			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1944			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

D-6
Rehoboth (NR)
Eldorado vicinity
c. 1785-90
Private

The property known since the seventeenth century as Rehoboth figures prominently in the history of northeastern Dorchester County as the long-time plantation of Captain John Lee and his descendants, who held title to various sections of this large tract for one hundred years. Captain Lee patented over two thousand acres along the Northwest Fork of the Nanticoke River, now called Marshyhope Creek, in 1673. Family ownership of various sections lasted until the 1770s. The two-story, Flemish and English bond brick house, however, dates to the decade following Lee ownership after merchant and planter Captain John Smoot and his father, Edward Smoot, acquired 1300 acres of the Rehoboth tract from Dr. Philip Ludwell Lee of Westmoreland County, Virginia. The two-story Flemish bond brick side hall/double-pile plan dwelling was erected around 1785-90 with the characteristic blend of late Georgian and Federal architectural finishes. The foundation of the house is defined by a molded watertable and a beltcourse stretches across the front and rear walls. Rusticated wood jack arches spanned the original window and door openings, however a fire in the fall of 1916 completely gutted the structure and all its exterior and interior finishes aside from the walls themselves. The tall, narrow proportions of the gable end chimney stack and the round gable end windows are very similar to the same features at Friendship Hall. (See D-2)

Between the 1673 patent date of the Rehoboth tract, which encompassed 2350 acres, and the Revolutionary War, the large plantation bordering the Northwest Fork of the Nanticoke River was held by Captain John Lee and his heirs. Early Lee family plats

of the plantation, recorded in 1713, and again in 1759, clearly indicate that the large acreage had been improved with various structures and the property was surrounded by the plantations and fields of other inhabitants of the Hundred of the North-west Fork, which was laid out in 1682 after the county's founding around 1669. Philip Lee (d. 1744), whose principal residence was in Prince George's County, Maryland, inherited 1300 acres of the Rehoboth tract from his father, Richard Lee, in 1714. To another son, Thomas, Richard Lee left the balance of the family lands on the Northwest Fork.

During the next generation of Lee family ownership, the Rehoboth tract was subdivided between various family members, although the largest portion encompassing 1300 acres bordering Bachelor's Creek and the Northwest Fork, was held by Dr. Philip Ludwell Lee (1727-1775), who inherited Stratford Hall in Westmoreland County, Virginia, as well as other lands in Virginia and Maryland from his father, Thomas Lee (d. 1750). By the second quarter of the eighteenth century, various Lee family holdings of the Rehoboth tract were advertised for sale or lease in the *Maryland Gazette*. In February 1747, Francis Lee, son of Philip Lee who died in 1744, advertised for lease, "his late Mansion House on the North-West Fork of the Nanticoke River." He also put forth a mutual interest of his and Captain Walter Montgomery to have a ship built at "Lee's Landing on the Nanticoke." Philip Ludwell Lee placed an advertisement for his holdings in September 1754, and during the following summer, the plantation lands held by Philip Lee, deceased, were also available and any interest should be directed to Daniel Sulivane in Dorchester County, Corbin Lee in Baltimore County, George Lee in Prince George's County, or John Lee, Jr. of Essex County, Virginia.

It was not until April 1770, however, that Philip Ludwell Lee found an interested buyer. Edward Smoot (1724-1795) and his son John Smoot, then residents of Charles County, Maryland, entered into an agreement to purchase two portions of the Rehoboth tract for L1009.10. It appears that John Smoot (c. 1748-1793) relocated soon to Dorchester County, while his father Edward remained in Charles County. One of the first official actions of the Smoots was to determine the actual boundary of the land they had purchased since, according to them, the "bounds thereof is gone to decay." A commission was set up with Daniel Sulivane, Anderton Brown, George Kirkman and Matthew Smith, Jr. who were to serve in the capacity of commissioners to hear depositions from local residents as to their personal knowledge of the location of the old boundary markers. Evidently, within the year John Smoot was residing in Dorchester County. A confirmatory deed for the 1770 transfer, conveyed in September 1772 for one additional pound, relinquished full title of the Lee plantation to Edward and John Smoot. Identified in the land records as a merchant, John Smoot purchased an assortment of household items, farm implements and farm animals from John Lyon in October 1773. John Smoot also surfaces in the county and provincial records as a captain during the Revolutionary War in command of calvary, and by 1780 in charge of 54 privates.

Following Captain John Smoot's service during the Revolutionary War, he engaged in the merchant-planter activities well known for the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. A bill of sale executed in 1786 between Thomas Shiles of Vienna, a mariner or ship captain, and John Smoot indicates that Smoot partnered in the mercantile trade with Alexander Douglas. From the architectural character of the

exterior brickwork, it is clear that John Smoot financed construction of the large brick mansion between the end of the Revolution and his death in 1793.

At the time of John Smoot's death in 1793, the Dorchester County court ordered an assessment and division of his real estate between his many heirs. The large plantation was subdivided into several sections; Captain Henry Smoot transferred 395 ½ acres along the North West Fork, including the brick house, to Francis B. C. Turpin in November 1815. Smoot family ownership of other Rehoboth parcels continued through the early to mid nineteenth century as were associated with the slow development of Crotcher's Ferry as a commercial center in the Fork election district. A landing on the North West Fork at Crotcher's Ferry was known as "Smoot's Wharf" and Thomas Smoot operated a store in the village during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, one of which had been begun by Captain John Smoot. John Smoot also had stores at Federalsburg and Vienna. Captain Smoot also took advantage of the sizable timber stands in the region, and he established a saw mill on his land during his occupancy. Captain John Smoot's son, John, later sold a 2-acre part of Rehoboth next to the saw mill operated by William Drura.

Francis B. C. Turpin and his wife Mary Adeline occupied the old Smoot mansion, known as Liberty Hall, during the early to mid nineteenth century. In 1870 the Rehoboth tract with the Liberty Hall house was acquired by William H. Brinsfield, who is designated at this location on the Fork election district map printed in the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, issued in 1877. He is also included in the atlas patron list as a farmer with 371 acres. In April 1892, the heirs of William H. Brinsfield sold the old Rehoboth mansion with 130 acres to John H. Renner

in a straw deed; on the same day Renner transferred the same property to Philadelphians Rosanna Blumenstock, Emma Blumenstock, and Laura Blumenstock. During the early twentieth century the property, with a reduced 70 acres, was sold several times until James H. Saunders acquired the farm in 1912. Tragically, in the fall of 1916, under Saunders ownership, the old brick house was gutted by fire; it was sold as a gutted house several months later to another native Philadelphian, Francis W. Breuil and his wife Sara A. Breuil. Instead of leveling the site of the burned out shell, the Breuils entered into a rebuilding of the house with Colonial Revival detailing. Breuil family ownership of the property lasted until 2003.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-6

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Rehoboth, Liberty Hall
other Turpin Place

2. Location

street and number 5850 Puckum Road not for publication
city, town Eldorado x vicinity
county Dorchester

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name O. James Lighthizer and James P. Lighthizer
street and number 1547 Eton Way telephone
city, town Crofton state MD zip code 21114-0730

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 844 folio 403
city, town Cambridge tax map 24 tax parcel 33 tax ID number 01-000977

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	3
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	3
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. D-6

Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The plantation house known as Rehobeth or "Liberty Hall"¹ is situated at the end of a long farm lane with the address of 5850 Puckum Road, north of the village of Eldorado in Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story Flemish bond brick house, built atop a raised brick foundation, faces the Marshy Hope Creek with a southwestern principal exposure. The gable roof is oriented on a northwest/southeast axis. Dating around 1785-90, the side hall/double pile plan brick dwelling burned in the fall of 1916 and was completely gutted of its original interior finishes. The house was restored to a habitable dwelling after a new owner acquired the property in March 1917. A story-and-half frame kitchen wing extending the house to the northwest was added during the restoration of the house. Accompanying the house on the property are two nineteenth century frame outbuildings; a second quarter of the nineteenth century smokehouse and a late nineteenth century storage building.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The historic farm property known as Rehoboth is located on the north side of the small village of Eldorado at 5850 Puckum Road, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-and-half story Flemish bond brick house stands at the end of lane and is situated on a high bank overlooking Marshy Hope Creek. Dating around 1790, the side hall/double-pile plan brick house is supported on a raised brick foundation of English bond. The house is painted a cream color. While the exterior brickwork remains largely intact, the windows, roof, and interior woodwork were destroyed in a October 1916 fire. The southwest (main) elevation is laid in Flemish bond atop a molded brick watertable, whereas the other three walls are laid in English bond. The steeply pitched gable roof is defined by early twentieth century gable roofed dormers. Attached to the northwest gable end is an early twentieth century frame service wing. Accompanying the house on the property are two frame outbuildings; a second quarter of the nineteenth century smokehouse and a late nineteenth century storage building.

The southwest (main) elevation is a three-bay façade with a double-door entrance filling the southernmost bay, which is enhanced by an early twentieth century neoclassical entrance portico. The foundation of the house is defined by a high English bond wall capped by a molded watertable and pierced by wide cellar openings spanned by segmental rowlock arches. The openings are fitted with horizontal ten-pane windows. Flemish bond rises from the molded watertable, and twelve-over-twelve restoration sash light the first and second stories. Between the two stories is a two-brick beltcourse. The first floor windows are topped by scored wooden jack arches dating from the early twentieth century. The entrance bay is fitted with double leaf doors and it is topped by a decorative transom window dating from the early twentieth century restoration/renovation. A photograph of the house dating before the fire indicates the entrance

¹ Harry Wright Newman, *The Smoots of Maryland and Virginia*, p. 17.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-6

Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

featured a more typical five-light transom. Greek Doric columns support the gable front portico finished with extended eaves and cornice returns. The second story is lighted by smaller sized twelve-over-twelve sash windows, and an early twentieth century modillion block cornice finishes the base of the roof. Centered on the medium pitched gable roof is a pair of early twentieth century dormers featuring fluted pilasters flanking twelve-over-over sash windows.

The southeast gable end of English bond is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration of twelve-over-twelve sash windows topped by segmental arches of rowlocks. Fixed on the southwest corner is a double-door entrance spanned by a segmental arch as well. Two twelve-over-twelve sash windows light the second story, and a pair of round windows pierce the upper gable. These round windows are similar to those employed at Friendship Hall (D-2) in East New Market, which dates to the last decade of the eighteenth century. The gable end is finished flush with a molded bargeboard.

The northwest gable end, laid in English bond, is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration of nine-over-nine sash windows topped by segmental rowlock arches. Piercing the foundation wall is a bulkhead entrance to the cellar. Piercing the upper gable is a pair of small round windows that flank a wide interior end brick chimney stack. Extending northward from the gable end is a single-story frame kitchen wing dating from the early twentieth century. Supported on a parged brick foundation, the exterior is clad in wood shingles. The northeast elevation of the kitchen wing has a Tuscan columned porch.

The northeast (rear) elevation of the main block is laid in English bond as well above the English bond molded watertable. A two-course beltcourse divides the wall surface between floors, and twelve-over-twelve sash windows light the first and second stories. There is a rear entrance in the easternmost bay that is spanned by a segmental rowlock arch. The base of the roof is defined by a modillion block cornice, and two gable roofed dormers light the attic.

Standing northwest of the house are two frame outbuildings; a second quarter of the nineteenth-century smokehouse and a smaller frame building current used for storage. The smokehouse is a timber frame structure sheathed with weatherboard siding fastened with cut nails. While converted to a storage building as well, some of the interior framing elements have a furred surface common to smokehouses.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-6

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SUMMARY SIGNIFICANCE

The property known since the seventeenth century as Rehoboth figures prominently in the history of northeastern Dorchester County as the long-time plantation land of Captain John Lee of Virginia and his descendants, who held title to various sections of this large tract for one hundred years. Captain Lee patented over two thousand acres along the Northwest Fork of the Nantiocke River, now called Marshyhope Creek, in 1673, and family ownership of sections lasted until the early 1770s. The two-story Flemish and English bond brick house, however, dates to the decade following the Lee ownership after merchant and planter Captain John Smoot and his father Edward Smoot acquired 1300 acres of the Rehoboth tract from Dr. Philip Ludwell Lee of Westmoreland County, Virginia.² The two-and-a-half Flemish bond brick dwelling was erected around 1785-90 with the characteristic blend of late Georgian and Federal architectural finishes.³ The foundation of the house is defined by a molded brick watertable and a beltcourse stretches across the front and rear walls. Rusticated wood jack arches spanned the first floor window and door openings. The base of the roof was finished with a modillion block cornice typical of the late eighteenth century. In addition the tall, narrow proportions of the chimney stack and the round gable end attic windows are very similar to the same features at Friendship Hall. Tragically, the house experienced a catastrophic fire in the fall of 1916 that gutted the entire structure leaving only the walls remaining.

² Dorchester County Land Record, Old 24/34, 6 April 1770, Dorchester County Courthouse.

³ The Georgian character of the brickwork at Rehoboth led many to believe this structure was erected during the ownership of the Lee family during the early to mid-eighteenth century. The two-story side hall/double-pile plan and brickwork design similarities to other houses of the same period confirm the estimated date of construction. (See D-2, Friendship Hall, and D-1, House of the Hinges) The absence of any mention of a brick structure on the 1783 tax lists for various "Rehoboth" parcels confirms as well its estimated date of construction.

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Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Between the 1673 patent date of the Rehoboth tract, which encompassed 2350 acres, and the Revolutionary War, the large plantation bordering the Northwest Fork of the Nanticoke River was held by Captain John Lee of Virginia and his descendants. Early Lee family plats of the plantation recorded in 1713 and again in 1759 clearly indicate that the large acreage had been improved with various structures and that the property was surrounded by the plantations and fields of other inhabitants of the Hundred of the North-west Fork, which was created in 1682 after the county's founding around 1669. Philip Lee (d. 1744), whose principal residence was in Prince George's County, Maryland, inherited 1300 acres of the Rehoboth tract from his father, Richard Lee in 1714. To another son, Thomas, Richard Lee, left the balance of the family lands on the North West Fork.⁴

During the next generation of Lee family ownership the Rehoboth tract was subdivided between various family members, although the largest portion encompassing 1300 hundred acres along the North West Fork with Bachelor's Creek as the southwest boundary was held by "Dr. Philip Ludwell Lee" (1727-1775), who inherited Stratford Hall in Westmoreland County, Virginia and other lands in Virginia and Maryland from his father, Thomas Lee (d. 1750), as the eldest son. By the second quarter of the eighteenth century, various Lee family holdings of the North West Fork plantations were advertised for sale or lease in the *Maryland Gazette*. In February 1747, Francis Lee, son of Philip Lee who died in 1744, advertised for lease "his late Mansion House on the North-West Fork of the Nanticoke River. He also put forth a mutual of his and Captain Walter Montgomery to have a ship built at "Lee's Landing on the Nanticoke."⁵ Philip Ludwell Lee placed an advertisement for his holdings in September 1754,⁶ and during the following summer, plantation lands held by Philip Lee, deceased, were also available and any interest should be directed to Daniel Sullivane in Dorchester County, Corbin Lee in Baltimore County, Gerooge Lee in Prince George's County, or John Lee, Jr. of Essex County, Virginia.⁷

It was not until April 1770, however, that Philip Ludwell Lee found an interested buyer. Edward Smoot (1724-1795) and his son John Smoot, then residents of Charles County, Maryland entered into an agreement to purchase two portions of the Rehoboth tract for L1009.10.⁸ It appears that John Smoot (c. 1748-1793) relocated soon to Dorchester County,

⁴ Jones, p. 103.

⁵ Karen Mauer Green, *The Maryland Gazette, 1727-1761*, Galveston, The Frontier Press, 1989, p. 31.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 149.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 161.

⁸ Dorchester County Land Record, Old 24/34, 6 April 1770, Dorchester County Courthouse.

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Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

while his father Edward remained in Charles County. One of the first official actions of the Smoots was to determine the actual boundary of the land they had purchased since, according to them the "bounds thereof is gone to decay."⁹ A commission was set up with Daniel Sullivan, Anderton Brown, George Kirkman and Matthew Smith, Jr. serving in the capacity to hear depositions from local residents as to their knowledge of the location of the old boundary markers that defined the Rehoboth tract. Evidently, within the year John Smoot was residing in Dorchester County, whereas his brother Edward remained in Charles County. A confirmatory deed for the 1770 transfer, conveyed in September 1772 for one additional pound, relinquished full title of the Lee plantation to the Smoot brothers.¹⁰ Identified in the land records as a merchant, John Smoot purchased an assortment of household items, farm implements and farm animals from John Lyon in October 1773.¹¹ John Smoot also surfaces in the county and provincial records as a captain during the Revolutionary War in command of cavalry¹² and in 1780 in charge of 54 privates.¹³

Following Captain John Smoot's service during the Revolutionary War, he engaged in the merchant-planter activities well known for the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries when wealthy gentry served as brokers of local manufactures and produce in exchange for imported and selling finished goods from Europe and the West Indies. A bill of sale executed in 1786 between Thomas Shiles of Vienna, a mariner or ship captain and merchant John Smoot indicates the Smoot had partnered in the mercantile trade with Alexander Douglas.¹⁴ From the architectural character of the extant brick walls, it is evident that John Smoot financed construction of the two-story side hall/double-pile brick dwelling between 1785 and 1790 and prior to his death in 1793.

Merchant John Smoot died in 1793, and the court ordered an assessment and division of his real estate between his many heirs.¹⁵ The large plantation was subdivided into several sections; Captain Henry Smoot transferred 395 ½ acres along the North West Fork including the two-story brick house to Francis B. C. Turpin in November 1815.¹⁶ Smoot family ownership of other Rehoboth parcels continued through the early to mid nineteenth century and were associated with the slow development of Crotcher's Ferry as a commercial center in the Fork election

⁹ Dorchester County Land Record, Old 25/238-262, 13 November 1771, Dorchester County Courthouse.

¹⁰ Dorchester County Land Record, Old 26/205, 18 September 1772, Dorchester County Courthouse.

¹¹ Dorchester County Land Record, Old 26/450, 7 October 1773, Dorchester County Courthouse.

¹² Jones, p. 230.

¹³ Jones, p. 235.

¹⁴ Dorchester County Land Record, Bill of Sale, NH 9/148, 4 September 1786, Dorchester County Courthouse.

¹⁵ Dorchester County Land Record, ER 3/568, 27 October 1814, Dorchester County Courthouse.

¹⁶ Dorchester County Land Record, ER 4/24, 10 November 1815, Dorchester County Courthouse.

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Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

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district. A landing on the North West Fork at Crotcher's Ferry was known as "Smoot's Wharf" and Thomas Smoot operated a store in the village during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, one which had been begun by Captain John Smoot. Captain Smoot also took advantage of the sizable timber stands in region and established a saw mill on his land during his occupancy. Captain John Smoot's son, John, later sold a 2-acre part of Rehoboth next to the saw mill operated by William Drura.¹⁷

Francis B. C. Turpin and his wife Mary Adeline occupied the old Smoot mansion during the early to mid-nineteenth century. In 1870 the Rehoboth tract with the house was acquired by William H. Brinsfield, who is designated at this location on Fork election district map printed in the Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas of 1877.¹⁸ He is also listed in the atlas patron list as a farmer with 371 acres.¹⁹ In April 1892, the heirs of William H. Brinsfield sold the old Rehoboth mansion with 130 acres to John H. Renner in a straw deed; on the same day Renner transferred the same property to Philadelphians Rosanna Blumenstock, Emma Blumenstock and Laura Blumenstock.²⁰ During the early twentieth century the property, with a reduced 70 acres, was sold several times until Joseph H. Saunders acquired the farm in January 1912.²¹ Tragically, in the fall of 1916 under the Saunders ownership, the old brick house was gutted by fire; it was sold as a gutted house several months later to another native Philadelphian, Francis W. Breuil²² and his wife Sara A. Breuil. Instead of leveling the site of the burned out shell, the Breuils entered into a rebuilding of the house with Colonial Revival detailing. Breuil family ownership of the property lasted until 2003.²³

¹⁷ Dorchester County Land Record, HD 21/424, 8 November 1804, Dorchester County Courthouse.

¹⁸ John L. Graham, *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Salisbury: Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, p. 66.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 84.

²⁰ Dorchester County Land Record, CL 26/13, 3 October 1901.

²¹ Dorchester County Land Record, WLR 4/196, 4 January 1912.

²² Dorchester County Land Record, WHM 3/164, 17 March 1917.

²³ Dorchester County Land Record, 537/448, 12 August 2003.

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Rehoboth
5850 Puckum Road
Eldorado vicinity, Dorchester County, Maryland
Map 24, Parcel 33

CHAIN-OF-TITLE

MLB 844/403	Chesapeake Land Preservation, LLC
	to
12.20.2007	O. James Lighthizer and James P. Lighthizer
807/129	Gregory W. Jones and Barbara L. Jones
	to
5.7.2007	Chesapeake Land Preservation, LLC
	\$1,150,000.00
537/448	Ruth Woolen Breuil
	to
8.12.2003	Gregory W. Jones and Barbara L. Jones

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Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

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135/349 Clarence H. Cochran, Jr. Trustee

to

10.10.1963 John J. Breuil and Ruth Woolen Breuil

135/346 John J. Breuil and Ruth Woolen Breuil

to

10.10.1963 Clarence H. Cochran, Jr. Trustee

Land conveyed was devised unto the said John J. Breuil and Edwin D. Breuil by last will and testament of their mother, Sara A. Breuil, APM 4/92

Whereas by deed dated 2.21.1963, PLC 134/112, Edwin D. Breuil and Edna H. Breuil conveyed to John J. Breuil all of the ½ interest of the said Edwin D. Breuil

Lot No. 1, "Rehoboth" from County Corporation of Maryland, 1.15.1935, JFD 31/675, Survey made by J. Watson Thompson, 2.18.1887, in the Subdivision of lands of William H. Brinsfield, deceased 18 acres

Lot No. 2, to Sara A. Breuil by Viola M. Brinsfield, 9.30.1935, JFD 33/31, "Cripple Land"

Lot No. 3, to Sara A. Breuil by William L. Dean and wife by deed bearing date, 2.16.1939, and recorded in JFD 38/686, Lot No. 28 on the plat of "Map of Lots of Dean & Stevens"

Lot No. 4, "Rehoboth" 70 acres....on the northeast on the northwest prong of the Nanticoke River a short distance below what is commonly called Hackett's Wharf....to a cedar post at or near the stream of what is called "Drewry's Mill" branch...

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RSM 42/693 Sara A. Breuil and Francis W. Breuil

to

5.31.1941 Calvin L. Brinsfield, Trustee

WHM 3/164 Joseph H. Saunders and Sadie J. Saunders

to

3.17.1917 Francis W. Breuil

70 acres "Rehoboth"

WLR 4/196 Olivia C. Brinsfield and D'Arcy Brinsfield

to

1.4.1912 Joseph H. Saunders

\$2,500.00 70 acres "Rehoboth"

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Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 7

CL 33/645

William J. Nichols and Roda A. Nicols

to

1.21.1908

Olivia C. Brinsfield

\$1,500.00

CL 26/13

Rosanna Blumenstock, et al. (Emma S. Shroder and Andrew Shroder,
and John H. Renner, all of the City of Philadelphia)

to

10.3.1901

William J. Nichols

\$ 1,600.00

CL 16/472/73

John H. Renner

to

4.7.1892

Rosanna Blumenstock, Emma Blumenstock, Laura Blumenstock, all of
City of Philadelphia

\$2,900.00 130 acres

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Name Rehoboth
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 8

CL 10/388-390

Heirs of William H. Brinsfield (Mary C. Brinsfield, Zora H. Brinsfield, Margaret A. Brinsfield and Josiah T. Wheatley, Sarah E. Wheatley, William W. Brinsfield, Mary H. Brinsfield, widow and heirs of William H. Brinsfield)

to

4.7.1892

John H. Renner

\$2,900 "Rehoboth" 130 acres including a right-of-way twenty feet in width extending from the front gate next to Mill branch of said farm to the new county road leading from Eldorado to the road from Wesley M. E. Church to Wheatleyburg....

FJH 7/610

Stephen Andrews and wife, Rebecca Andrews

to

5.14.1870

William H. Brinsfield

\$2,500.00 it being the same land bought of William R...?.., as trustee for the sale of the land of Francis B. C. Turpin, dec'd, as reference to a commission will more fully appear

Tracts, Conclusion, Hackett's Adventure, Rehoboth....all lying contiguous and adjoining each other

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ER 4/24

Henry Smoot of Dorchester County

to

11.10.1815

Francis Turpin of Dorchester County

\$3,162.00 395 ¼ acres

ER 3/568

Commission to divide the Lands of John Smoot

10.27.1814

To the honorable the Judges of Dorchester County Court—the petition of Henry Smoot of Dorchester County humbly sheweth that a certain John Smoot late of the said county some time in the year seventeen hundred & ninety three [1793] died intestate and seized in fee simple of divers tracts and parts of tracts of land lying and being in Dorchester County afsd, that at the time of his death he left the following children, to wit, Catherine Cropper, wife of Doctor John Cropper, John Smoot, Robert Smoot, Joseph Smoot, and John Henry Smoot, that the said Catherine Cropper hath since died intestate, leaving two children, Eliza, wife of Doctor Henry P. Waggaman of full age, and Zadock Cropper, a minor, that the said Robert has also since died intestate, & without issue that the said lands have descended to the children of the said Catherine, to the said John Smoot, Joseph Smoot, and John Henry Smoot, who is a minor, as heirs at law of the said John Smoot deceased, that your petitioner has since purchased all the right, title, and interest & estate of the said John Smoot the son of in & to the said lands and hath obtained a conveyance for the same he therefore prays that the Court will appoint five commissioners to make division of said lands according to the act of assembly in such cases made & provided....

I do Certify that that at the request and under the directions of the Commissioners aforesaid I did survey and lay out all the lands afsd, and the said Commissioners did enter upon the said lands to view and examine the same to the value of \$11,403.00 Dollars and did then proceed to divide the

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Continuation Sheet

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same into four parts as follows—

Lot No. 1 assigned by the Commissioners to Captain Henry Smoot composed of a part of a tract of land called Rehoboth, part of Reids Chance and a part of Addition Reids Chance, part of Robins Ridge, and a part of Adams Dear Purchase...containing five hundred and ten acres of land more or less, the said Commissioners also assigned to the said Henry Smoot a small tract of land Called Strawberry Hill lying on the west side of the N.W. Fork river containing agreeable to Certificate thereof Eleven Acres of land more or less, and also an undivided moiety of the first part or tract of land called Discovery, adjoining to the said Strawberry Hill containing fifteen acres and one quarter acres of land, more or less, making in all the several parts five hundred and thirty seven acres of land more or less

Lot No. 2, assigned by the Commissioners to the heirs of Catherine Cropper, Eliza Waggaman, wife of Henry P. Waggaman and Zadock Cropper, composed of part of a tract of land called Rehoboth, part of Hackett's Adventure and a part of a Tract of land called Conclusion.....four hundred and eighty acres and one half acres of land more or less

Lot No. 3, assigned by the Commissioners to Joseph Smoot, composed of a part of a tract of land called Robins Ridge, part of Adam's Dear Purchase, and part of Conclusion.....containing 408 acres... The commissioners also assign to the said Joseph Smoot all that part of a tract of Land called Discovery... containing 122 acres more or less...as also all that part of a Tract of land called Dawsons Discovery" lying near the Northwest Fork Bridge....containing forty One and one half acres of Land more or less, and the Commissioners further assign to the said Joseph Smoot one house and Lot at the North West Fork bridge, the said Lot of ground being part of a Tract of land called Sandy Hill, containing one half acre of land, more or less, containing in all the several parts and parcels of land 572 acres of land more or less...

Lot No. 4, assigned by the Commissioners to John Henry Smoot being a part of the Tract of land called Rehoboth,.....Containing three hundred eighty eight acres of land more or less...

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Dorchester County
Land Record

Lettice Corbin Lee of Harford County, MD

to

John Smoot

Dorchester County
Land Record
Bill of Sale
NH 9/148

Thomas Shiles of Vienna, Mariner

to

9.4.1786

Alexander Douglas & John Smoot, Merchants

L62.10

a Mullatto Girl about 17 years named Seb

Dorchester County
Land Record
Bill of Sale
Old 26/450

John Lyon, planter of Dorchester County

to

10.7.1773

John Smoot, Merchant

L14.16.8 three sows & seven pigs, three shoats, three old
feather beds, two rugs, one pair sheets, two Iron Potts,
two pot Hooks, two plows, two harrows, three axes,
one frying pan, one pr fire tongs & one gun, one old
cast, one square Table, one Chist, five pewter plates,
Bason, one Dish, one Tinn pan, one Woolen Wheel,
One Linen Do, a per of Flax & a Crop of Tobacco,
Corn & fodder....

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Old 26/205

Honorable Doctor Philip Ludwell Lee, Esq. of Westmoreland County, Va.

to

9.18.1772

Edward Smoot of Charles County and John Smoot of Dorchester County

1300 acres L1010.10.0

Witnesseth that whereas Richard Lee of the Colony of Virginia, by his last will and testament bearing date the third day of March in the year one thousand seven hundred and fourteen did give and demise to Thomas Lee the residue of a Patent granted to John Lee of Virginia bearing date the thirty first day of March in the year sixteen hundred and seventy three, [1673] which said John Lee did give and devise by his Last Will and Testament bearing date the twenty second day of February one thousand seven hundred and forty nine/50 all his Lands on the Eastern Shore of Maryland called Rehoboth containing Thirteen Hundred Acres to the aforesaid Philip Ludwell Lee....

Dorchester County
Land Record
Old 25/238-262

Memorandum; the following Commission & Depositions was recorded...

11.13.1771

To Daniel Sulivane, Anderton Brown, George Kirkman & Matthew Smith Jr. greeting, whereas Edward Smoot and John Smoot by their Petition to our Justices of Dorchester County Court hat set forth that they are seized of part of a Tract of land lying and being in Dorchester County called Rehoboth, the bounds thereof is gone to decay, they did pray a Commission in order to perpetuate in memory the Bounds of said Land according to the Act of Assembly in that case made & provided which petition is granted and it being suggested that you are Substantial and capable Freeholders within the said County of Dorchester

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Dorchester County
Land Record
Old 24/34

Honorable Doctor Philip Ludwell Lee Esquire of Westmoreland Co., Va.

to

4.6.1770

Edward Smoot and John Smoot of Charles County, MD, planters

L1009.10 all them two parts of a Tract or parcel of Land situate lying and being in Dorset County in the province of Maryland called Rehoboth, the first part of the afsd tract of Land is Bounded as follows; Beginning at a cedar Post standing in the mouth of Batchelor's Creek, running thence East by North three Hundred and forty six Perches to a marked Hickory thence.....containing and laid out for 743 acres,

The other Part of the Tract or Parcell of Land is Bounded as follows: Containing 603 acres, 3 roods, and 26 perches

Survey and plat

by Peter Harllee

September 1759

Rebobeth for the Honorable Phillip Ludwell Lee

Total in both parts 1346 acres, 3 roods, 26 perches

SE part beginning at the mouth of Bachelor's Creek, 743 acres

Survey mentions landmarks, E near a plantation of Widdow Hills; A great part of Adams cornfield; to angle H near a plantation of Jacob Reeds; to angle E near Abraham Reeds Dwelling house, here we Marked a hickory stump in his Corn field; L near a plantation of Wilson's here we marked a hickory

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Name Rehoboth
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Number 8 Page 14

Maryland Gazette
August 14, 1755
p. 161

Land formerly belonging to Hon. Philip Lee, Esq. dec'd, known as "Rehoboth" in the North West fork of Nanticoke, Dorchester County, is for sale. Apply to Daniel Sullivan in Dorchester County, Corbin Lee in Baltimore County, George Lee in Prince George's County, or John Lee, jr. of Essex County, Virginia.

Maryland Gazette
December 19, 1754
p. 149

There is land for sale in Dorchester County on Nanticoke River. Apply to Philip Ludwell Lee, at Stratford, Westmoreland County, Virginia, near Potomack River

Maryland Gazette
February 3, 1747
p. 31

Francis Lee offers for lease his late Mansion House on the North-West Fork of the Nanticoke River. Also he and Capt. Walter Montgomery want someone to build a ship at Lee's Landing on the Nanticoke.

Prince George's County
Will Book
Jones, p. 103

Last Will and Testament of Philip Lee

Died in 1744

To Carbon Lee, 200 acres called "Rehoboth",
To John and George Lee, 600 acres called "Rehoboth" to be equally
Divided between them
To Francis, 200 acres, part of a tract "Rehoboth"
To grandson Philip Lee, 200 acres of "Rehoboth"

Westmoreland County
Virginia Will Record
Jones, p. 102

Last Will and Testament of Richard Lee

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Continuation Sheet

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Will probated
27 April 1714

To son Phillip Lee a tract of land in Dorchester County on the Eastern
Shoar of Maryland and on the North West Fork of Nanticoke river
containing 1300 acres more or less and bounded as follows

to son Thomas the residue of all my lands in the North West fork of the
Nanticoke river in Dorchester County

Survey Patent

March 31, 1673

"Rehoboth" for Captain John Lee (died fall 1673)

2350 acres (land passes to brother, Richard Lee)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-6

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Green, Karen Mauer. The Maryland Gazette, 1727-1761, Galveston, Texas: The Frontier Press, 1989.

Mrs. Preston Parish, Rehoboth, National Register nomination, 17 January 1972.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 70 acres

Acreage of historical setting 70 acres

Quadrangle name Rhodesdale, MD Quadrangle Quadraangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this surveyed property are coincidental with the current boundary of the tract.

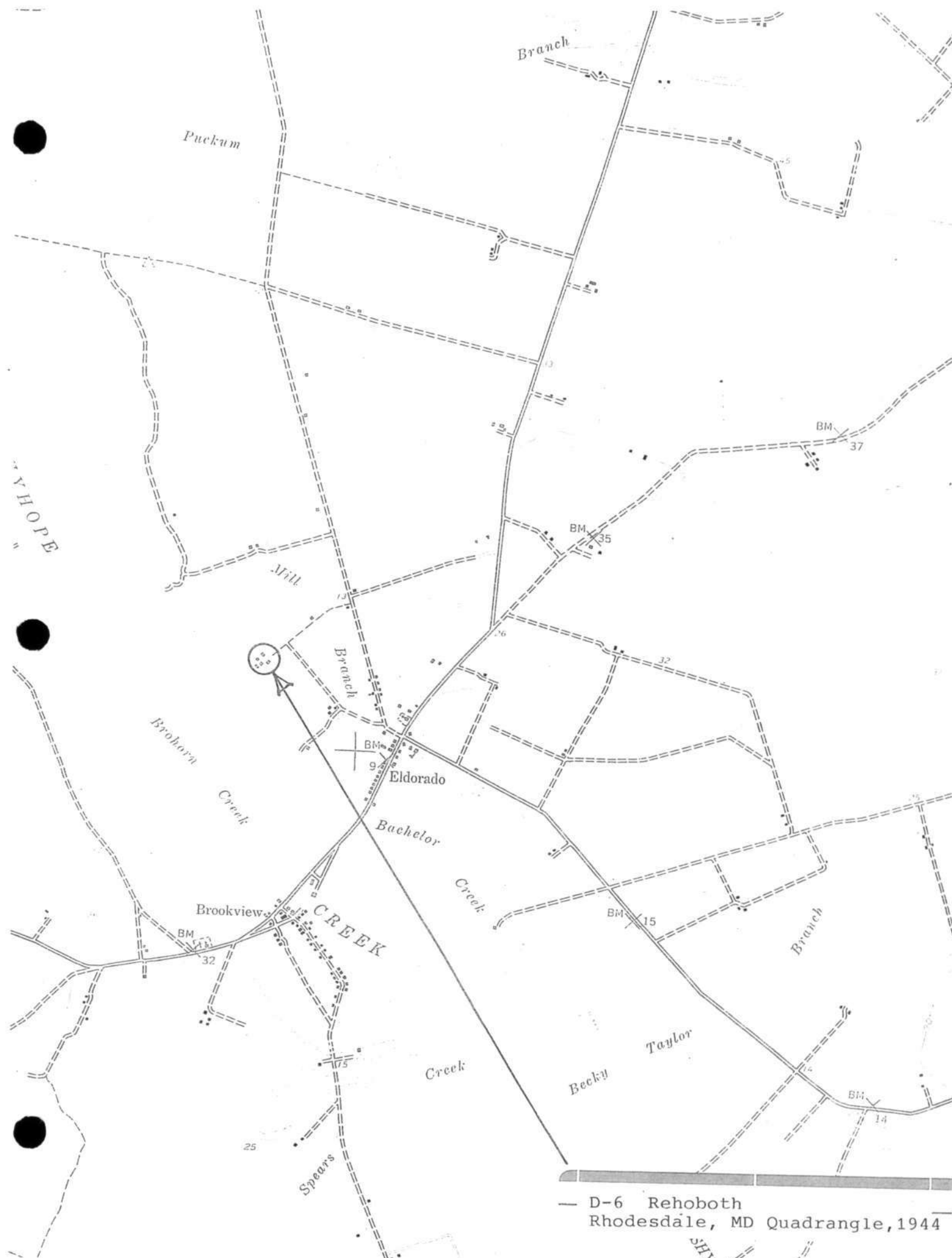
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	1/8/2008
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



D-6 Rehoboth
Rhodesdale, MD Quadrangle, 1944



D-6

REHOBOTH (LIBERTY HALL)

ELDONADO VIC., DORCHESTER CO., MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

1/08. PAUL TOWN, PITTSBURGH

W. 1/4 MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1/4



D. 6

REHOBOTH (LIBERTY ISLAND)

ELDONADO VLG, DORCHESTER CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

1/08, PAUL TOWNANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG/ AND HISTORICAL TRUST

2/4



D-6

REITSBUNT (Liberty Hall)

ELDERADO VIC, DORCHESTER Co., MD.

WORTHINGTON ELEVATION

1/08, PAUL TONART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEB/MO. HISTORICAL TRUST

3/4



D-6

REHOBOTH (LIBERTY Hall)

ELDORADO VIC., DORCHESTER Co., MD.

OUTBUILDINGS - SOUTHWEST ELEV.

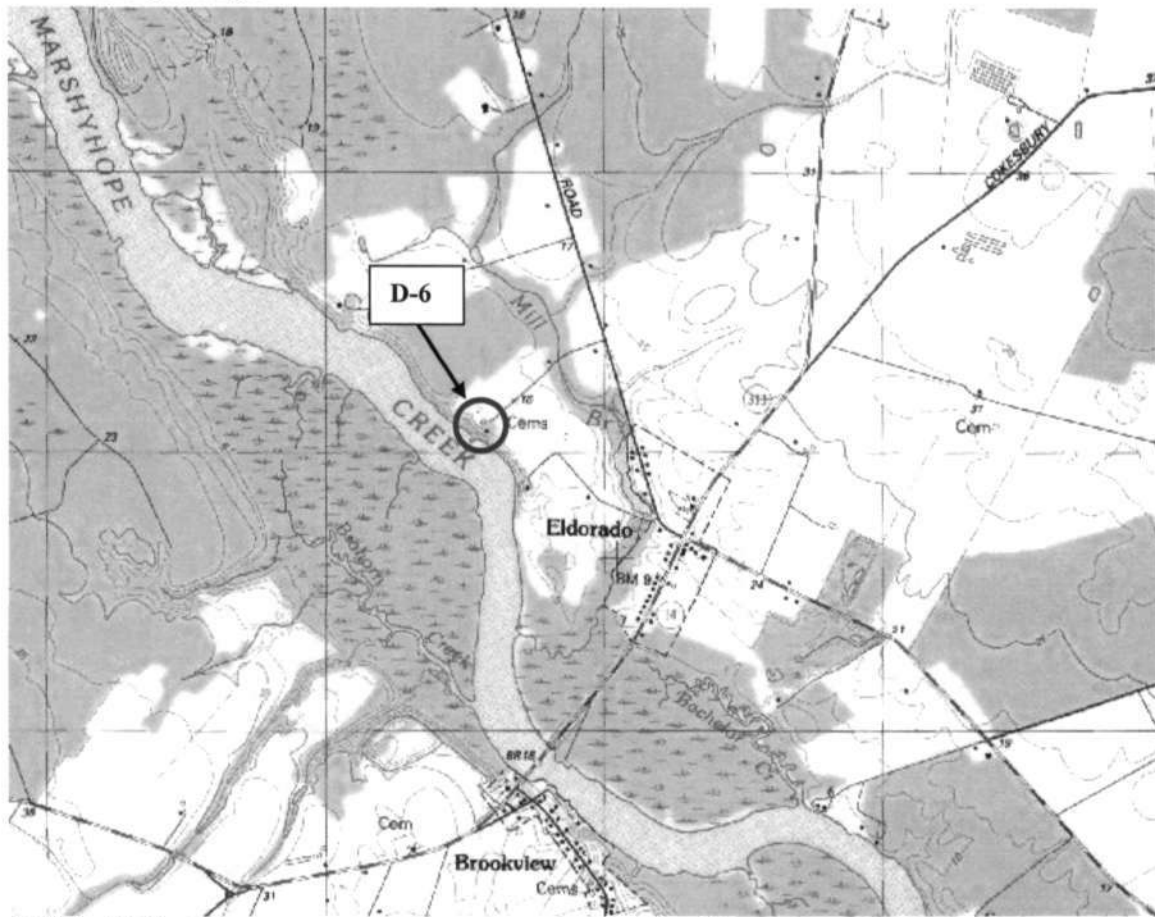
1/08, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER
N+2 / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

4/4

Dist 1; for map 24; p. 33

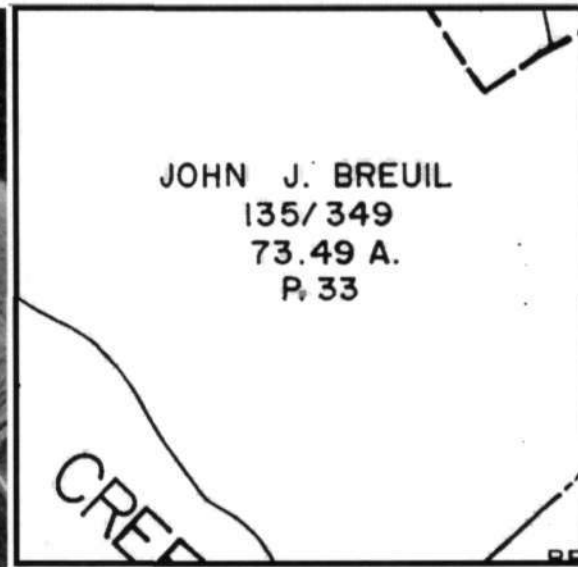
1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Dorchester County TOWN El Dorado VICINITY STREET NO.		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY D - 6	
ORIGINAL OWNER Lee Family ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER Mr. & Mrs. Brevil PRESENT USE Dwelling WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick NO. OF STORIES 2-1/2		2. NAME Rehobeth DATE OR PERIOD mid 18th century STYLE Georgian ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
OPEN TO PUBLIC NO <p>Rehobeth is a two-and-a-half story brick building, three bays wide and three bays deep. The brick is laid in Flemish bond. The house stands on a high foundation, on all elevations of which are a double-mold water-table and large basement windows.</p> <p>The belt is a two brick course. The windows on the river facade have plaster lintels, simulating stone masonry, and there are 12 over 12 sash on the windows at both floor levels of each facade. The gable-end windows have 9 over 9 sash and in the attic there are two round windows on each gable. There are two dormers on each side of the roof. The cornice has modillions.</p> <p>Off the northwest facade a frame kitchen wing has been added. The house burned in 1916. It was renovated by the parents of the present owner.</p> <p>A State Roads Commission marker reads:</p> <p>"Rehobeth</p> <p>Patented by Captain John Lee of Virginia, 1673 for 2360 acres. It descended through the Lee family until 1787. Thomas Sim Lee, 1745 - 1819 (second Governor of Maryland) was descended from the Lees of Rehobeth"</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior			
<p><u>Condition: Good</u></p> <p>Mr. + Mrs. John J. Brevil Box 157 Rhodesdale, Md. 21659</p>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Michael O. Bourne Maryland Historical Trust DATE OF RECORD March 6, 1968	

D-6
Rehoboth
(Turpin Place, Lee Mansion)
Puckum Road, Eldorado
Rhodesdale Quadrangle

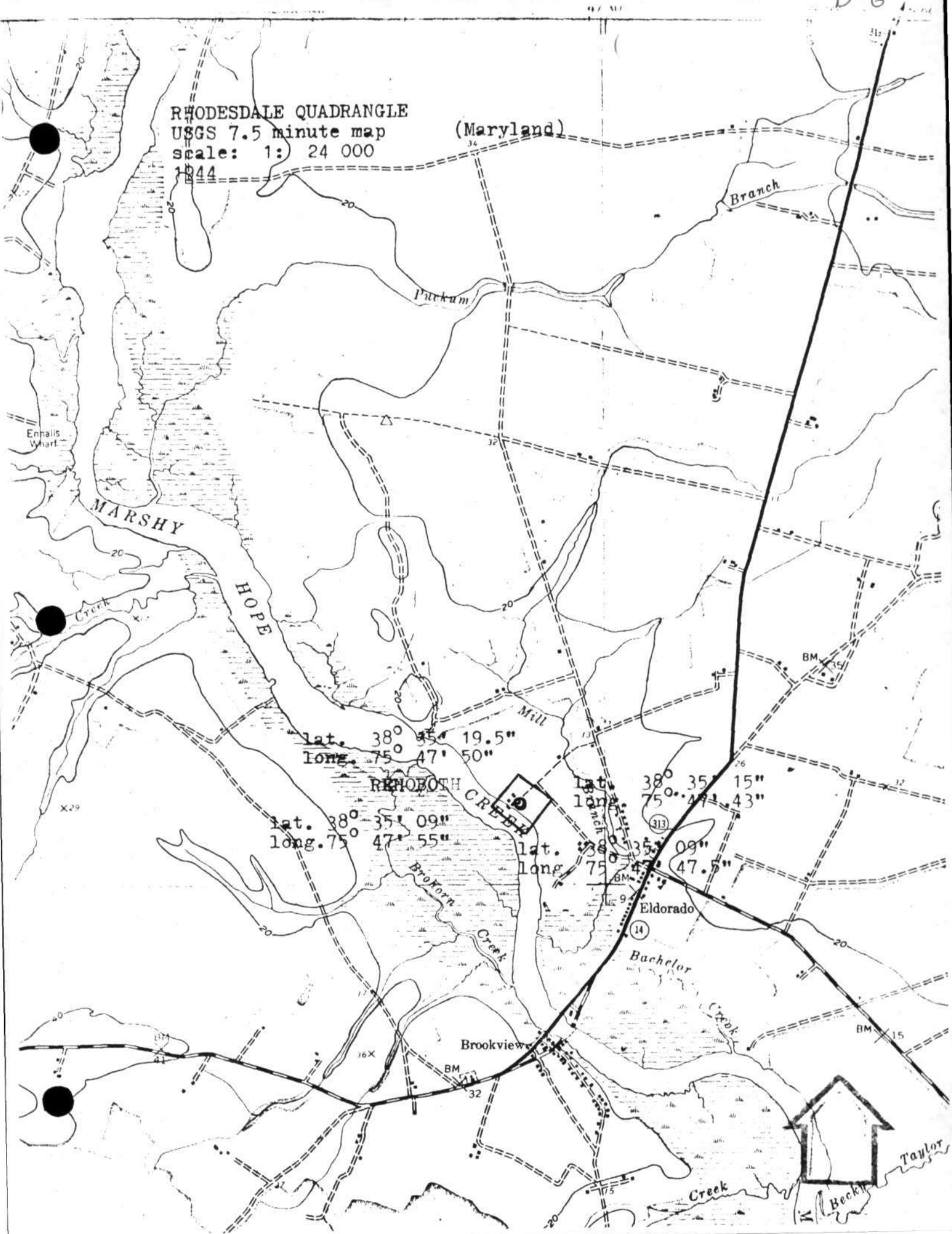


1998 Aerial Photo

Tax Map 24



D-6





REHOBETH, DORCHESTER COUNTY

D-6

D-6

Rehoboth

Michael O. Bourne

3/1968

MT HISTORICAL TRUS
BOX 1704
BETHESDA MD 20814

1903 E 7/68

2 SHOTS: FIG. (1.5) @ 152% (D-6) @ 75% 13X1-70



Rehoboth

D-6

M. Bowne 3/68